

General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 1312

January Session, 2007

*	SB01312PD	052407	*

AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTION DAY REGISTRATION, CHANGES TO THE CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS, AND CERTAIN COMPENSATION OF REGISTRARS OF VOTERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007, and applicable to primaries and elections held on and after July 1, 2007*) (a) As used in this section and section 9-261 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, "primary day" means the day that primaries for state, district and municipal offices are held, in accordance with section 9-423 of the general statutes, and "election day" means the day on which a regular election, as defined in section 9-1 of the general statutes, is held.
 - (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 143 of the general statutes, a person who meets the eligibility requirements under subsection (a) of section 9-12 of the general statutes, may apply for admission as an elector on primary day or election day.
- (c) Any such application shall be made in accordance with the provisions of section 9-20 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, provided (1) the applicant shall appear in person at a location determined by the registrars of voters on primary day or election day, (2) an applicant who is a student enrolled at an institution of higher education may submit a current photo identification card issued by

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said institution in lieu of the identification required by said section 9-20, and (3) the applicant shall declare under oath that the applicant meets the eligibility requirements to be an elector, as indicated on such application, and has not previously voted in the primary or election. If the information that the applicant is required to provide under section 9-20 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and this section does not include proof of the applicant's residential address, the applicant shall also submit a United States passport, a military identification card, a learner's permit, a utility bill due not later than thirty days after the primary or election, a current registration or fee statement from an institution of higher education, or another document prescribed by the Secretary of the State that has the applicant's name and current address. If such applicant fails to submit proof of the applicant's residential address, the admitting official shall require the applicant to prove bona fide residence through the testimony, under oath, of at least one elector. If the admitting official determines that an applicant is qualified, and admits the applicant as an elector, the admitting official shall give the applicant a notice of acceptance that indicates the applicant's voting district and the applicant shall be allowed to vote. A notice of acceptance shall be on a form designed to prevent forgery or counterfeiting, as prescribed by the Secretary of the State. The admitting official shall check the statewide centralized voter registration system before admitting an applicant as an elector, to determine whether the applicant is an elector in another municipality in the state.

(d) Not later than seven days after each primary or election day, the registrars of voters shall send a confirmation to the residential address of each applicant who is admitted as an elector on primary or election day under this section. Such confirmation shall be sent by first-class mail with instructions on the envelope that it be returned if not deliverable at the address shown on the envelope. If a confirmation is returned undelivered, the registrars shall refer the matter to the State Elections Enforcement Commission which shall immediately conduct an investigation.

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- (e) Any statement by an applicant shall be made under the penalties of perjury pursuant to section 53a-156 of the general statutes. An applicant shall be guilty of perjury if the applicant intentionally makes a false statement, under oath, of a fact that the applicant does not believe to be true.
- Sec. 2. Section 9-158a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007, and applicable to primaries and elections held on and after July 1, 2007*):
- 60 As used in sections 9-139c, 9-140b, 9-158a to 9-158m, inclusive, and 61 9-307:
- (1) "Federal election" means any general or special election or any primary held solely or in part for the purpose of selecting, nominating or electing any candidate for the office of president, vice president, presidential elector, member of the United States Senate or member of the United States House of Representatives;
 - (2) "Former resident" means a person who was a bona fide resident of a town in this state and who has [removed] moved from that town to another state less than thirty days before the day of a presidential election and who for that reason is unable to register to vote in the election in [his] said person's present [town or] state of residence;
- 72 (3) "Overseas elector" means any person permitted to vote pursuant 73 to subsection (b) of section 9-158b, as amended by this act;
- 74 (4) "Presidential election" means an election at which electors of 75 President and Vice-President are elected;
- 76 (5) "Resident" means a bona fide resident of a town in this state;
- 77 (6) "State" includes any of the several states, the District of 78 Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin 79 Islands; and
- 80 (7) "United States" includes the several states, the District of

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- 81 Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin
- 82 Islands, but does not include American Samoa, The Canal Zone, the
- 83 trust territory of the Pacific Islands or any other territory or possession
- 84 of the United States.
- Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 9-158b of the general statutes is
- 86 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July
- 87 1, 2007, and applicable to primaries and elections held on and after July 1,
- 88 2007):
- 89 (a) Each citizen of the United States who is at least eighteen years of
- age, is a [resident or] former resident and [who] has not forfeited [his]
- 91 <u>said citizen's</u> electoral privileges because of a disfranchising crime,
- 92 may vote for presidential and vice-presidential electors, but for no
- 93 other offices, in the town in this state in which [he resides, or] said
- 94 <u>citizen</u> formerly resided in the manner provided in sections 9-158c to 9-
- 95 158m, inclusive, as amended by this act.
- 96 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 9-158c of the general statutes is
- 97 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July
- 98 1, 2007, and applicable to primaries and elections held on and after July 1,
- 99 2007):
- 100 (a) (1) Not earlier than forty-five days before the election and not
- 101 later than the close of the polls on election day, each [resident, or]
- 102 former resident who desires to vote in a presidential election under
- sections 9-158a to 9-158m, inclusive, as amended by this act, may apply
- for a "presidential ballot" to the municipal clerk of the town in which
- [he] said former resident is qualified to vote on the form prescribed in
- section 9-158d, as amended by this act. Application for a "presidential
- ballot" may be made in person or absentee, in the manner provided for
- applying for an absentee ballot under section 9-140, except as provided
- in said sections 9-158a to 9-158m, inclusive, as amended by this act.
- 110 (2) A municipal clerk shall have the authority to designate a location
- in a municipal facility for the distribution, completion and processing
- 112 of presidential ballot applications and the distribution, casting and

- 113 return of presidential ballots under sections 9-158a to 9-158m,
- inclusive, as amended by this act, on election day. Such municipal
- clerk may appoint one or more presidential ballot assistants to serve at
- 116 such location, may delegate to such assistants any of the
- 117 responsibilities assigned to municipal clerks under said sections, and
- shall train and supervise such presidential ballot assistants.
- Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 9-158d of the general statutes is
- repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
- 121 1, 2007, and applicable to primaries and elections held on and after July 1,
- 122 2007):
- 123 (a) The application for a presidential ballot shall be a form signed in
- duplicate by the applicant under penalty of false statement in absentee
- balloting, which shall provide substantially as follows:
- To the Town Clerk of the Town of Connecticut
- 127 I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of false statement in
- absentee balloting that the following statements are true:
- 1. I am a citizen of the United States.
- 2. I have not forfeited my electoral privileges because of conviction
- of a disfranchising crime.
- 3. I was born on ..., and on the day of the next presidential election,
- 133 I shall be at least 18 years of age. [Check and complete 4 or 5,
- 134 whichever applies:]
- 135 [4. RESIDENT. I am a bona fide resident of the above town, to
- which I am making this application, and I reside at Street. I moved
- to said town on the day of, 20... Before becoming a resident of
- said town, I resided at Street, in the Town of County of, State
- 139 of]
- 140 [5.] 4. FORMER RESIDENT. I am a former resident of the above
- town, to which I am making this application, and resided at Street

- therein. I moved from such town to my present town of residence on
- the day of, 20.., being within thirty days before the date of the
- next presidential election, and for that reason I cannot register to vote
- in said presidential election in my present town of residence. I am now
- a bona fide resident of the Town of, in the state of, now residing
- 147 at Street therein.
- [6.] 5. I hereby apply for a "presidential ballot" for the election to be
- held on, 20... I have not voted and will not vote otherwise than by
- 150 this ballot at that election. I am not eligible to vote for electors of
- 151 President and Vice-President [in any other town in Connecticut or] in
- any other state.
- [7.] <u>6.</u> The said ballot is to be given to me personally mailed to me at
- 154 (bona fide mailing address)
- 155 Dated at, this day of 20...
- 156 (Signature of applicant)
- Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 9-158e of the general statutes is
- repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
- 159 1, 2007, and applicable to primaries and elections held on and after July 1,
- 160 2007):
- 161 (a) A person applying for a presidential ballot in person shall
- present: (1) A current and valid photo identification, or (2) a copy of a
- 163 current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or
- other government document that shows the name and address of the
- voter. The application for a presidential ballot by mail shall be
- 166 accompanied by: (A) A copy of a current and valid photo
- identification, or (B) a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement,
- 168 government check, paycheck or government document that shows the
- 169 name and address of the voter. Upon receipt of an application for a
- 170 presidential ballot under sections 9-158a to 9-158m, inclusive, as
- amended by this act, the clerk, if satisfied that the application is proper

- and that the applicant is qualified to vote under said sections, shall forthwith give or mail to the applicant, as the case may be, a ballot for presidential and vice-presidential electors for use at the election and instructions and envelopes for its return. At such time the clerks shall also mail a duplicate of the application to the appropriate official of [(i) the state or the town in this state in which the applicant last resided in the case of an applicant who is a resident, or (ii)] the state [or the town in this state] in which the applicant now resides. [in the case of an applicant who is a former resident.]
- Sec. 7. Section 9-158j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007, and applicable to primaries and elections held on and after July 1, 2007*):
 - Upon receipt of an application for a "Presidential Ballot" or "Overseas Ballot" the town clerk shall forthwith notify the registrars of voters of the applicant's name, with a notation designating [him] the applicant as a person voting for presidential and vice-presidential electors or federal offices only. If the name of a presidential voter [who is a former resident] appears on the registry list, the registrars of voters or assistant registrars of voters, as the case may be, shall insert the letters "pf" in red ink within the margin preceding [his] the voter's name. The registrars of voters shall prepare a list of names and addresses of presidential voters and overseas electors whose names do not appear on the registry list, for each voting district, [which] if district counting is used. Such list shall accompany the official check list to be used at such election in such district. [The registrars shall insert the letters "pf" in the margin of such list of presidential voters preceding the name of each applicant who is a former resident.] If central counting is used, such list shall go to central counting.
- Sec. 8. Section 9-158k of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007, and applicable to primaries and elections held on and after July 1, 2007*):
- The municipal clerk shall file each duplicate application or other

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official information received by [him] such clerk from another state, [or from another town in this state, indicating that a person who formerly resided [or presently resides] in such town has made application to vote at a presidential election in such other state, [or town,] and shall maintain an alphabetical index of such information for a period of one hundred eighty days after the election. The clerk shall compare each such application or statement of information with applications made under the provisions of sections 9-158a to 9-158m, inclusive, as amended by this act, and, after the election, with the names checked off as having voted on the check list for the election, to ascertain that any such person has not voted more than once. Whenever the record indicates that any person has applied for a presidential ballot and indicated in [his] such person's application that [he] such person is applying as a former resident, and there is record evidence that such person has applied in another state [or town] as a new resident, the applicant's ballot shall not be cast in [his] such person's former town of residence.

Sec. 9. Section 9-6 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

Each registrar of voters or, in the absence of a registrar, his deputy, and each town clerk or, in the absence of a town clerk, one of his assistant town clerks shall be compensated by the municipality which he represents, as herein provided, for attending two conferences a year for town clerks and registrars of voters which may be called by the Secretary of the State for the purpose of discussing the election laws, procedures or matters related thereto. Each such official shall be compensated by his or her municipality [at the rate of thirty-five dollars] at his or her usual salary rate per day for attending each such conference, plus conference fees, hotel accommodations and mileage to and from such conference at a rate per mile determined by the municipality, [but not less than twenty cents per mile,] computed from the office of such official [or, if he has no office, from his home] to the place where such conference is being held. [In towns divided into two voting districts which elect registrars of voters for each voting district,

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only two registrars of opposite political parties need be so compensated for each such conference and, if the registrars are unable to agree as to the two registrars to be so compensated, such determination shall be made at least three days prior to such conference by the chief executive officer of the municipality.]

Sec. 10. Section 9-168 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

In any town not divided into voting districts, the place of holding elections may be determined by the [legislative body] registrars of voters of such town. In towns divided into voting districts the place of holding elections shall be determined as provided in section 9-169, as amended by this act, or any special act, whichever applies. Except as provided in section 9-169a, state elections shall be held at the usual place or places of holding elections in the town or the voting districts thereof, as the case may be, unless the registrars of voters, in writing, have designated to the clerk of such town, at least thirty-one days before any such state election, a different place or places for holding such election. Unless otherwise provided by special act, the place of holding city or borough elections shall be determined by the registrars of voters, with approval of the legislative body of such city or borough. Any provision of any charter or special act to the contrary notwithstanding, the place or places of holding an election shall be determined at least thirty-one days prior to such election, and such place or places shall not be changed within the period of thirty-one days prior to such election except that, if the [municipal clerk and] registrars of voters of a municipality unanimously find that any such polling place within such municipality has been rendered unusable within such period, they shall forthwith designate another polling place to be used in place of the one so rendered unusable and shall give adequate notice that such polling place has been so changed.

Sec. 11. Section 9-168a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

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- (a) Any provision of the general statutes to the contrary notwithstanding, in any municipality in which, at any election, or primary, as a result of the assembly, senatorial or congressional district lines in effect, there is a voting district or a part of a voting district which differs geographically from the district lines as constituted in a municipal election year, the registrars of voters may either provide a suitable polling place therein or may, in lieu thereof, with the approval of the legislative body of the municipality, provide separate voting [machines] tabulators in the polling place of another voting district in said municipality for use by such electors. The registrars of voters shall determine which polling place officials are necessary for such separate [machines] tabulators and shall provide the procedure to ensure that the electors use the proper voting [machine] tabulator, which procedure may include the registrars of voters prescribing and providing receipts.
- (b) Any provision of the general statutes to the contrary notwithstanding, in any municipality in which, at any election or primary, as a result of the assembly, senatorial or congressional district lines in effect, there is a voting district with less than one thousand five hundred electors who vote for a combination of officers that no other electors of the town vote for, the registrars of voters may either provide a suitable polling place therein or may, in lieu thereof, provide separate voting [machines] tabulators in the polling place of another voting district in said municipality for use by such electors. If the registrars of voters provide separate voting [machines] tabulators in the polling place of another voting district, they shall determine which polling place officials are necessary for the district containing less than one thousand five hundred electors and shall provide the procedure to ensure that the electors use the proper voting [machines] tabulators, which procedure may include the registrars of voters prescribing and providing receipts.
- (c) In any election or primary where electors in more than one voting district vote in the same building and vote for all the same officers, and the law does not require separate returns, the registrars of

voters may combine the voting districts and polling places into one voting district and polling place, with or without integrating the voting districts on the check lists used at the election or primary. The registrars of voters shall file a statement of their action with the [town] municipal clerk before the election or primary and the [town clerk] registrars of voters shall label the polling place return form to show which districts are combined on such return.

Sec. 12. Section 9-169 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

The registrars of voters, with approval of the legislative body of any town, consolidated town and city or consolidated town and borough, may divide and, from time to time, redivide such municipality into voting districts. The registrars of voters of any municipality taking such action shall provide a suitable polling place in each district but, if the registrars of voters fail to agree as to the location of any polling place or places, the legislative body shall determine the location thereof. Polling places to be used in an election shall be determined at least thirty-one days before such election, and such polling places shall not be changed within said period of thirty-one days except that, if the [municipal clerk and] registrars of voters of a municipality unanimously find that any such polling place within such municipality has been rendered unusable within such period, they shall forthwith designate another polling place to be used in place of the one so rendered unusable and shall give adequate notice that such polling place has been so changed. The registrars of voters shall keep separate lists of the electors residing in each district and shall appoint for each district a moderator in accordance with the provisions of section 9-229 and such other election officials as are required by law, and shall designate one of the moderators so appointed or any other elector of such town to be the head moderator for the purpose of declaring the results of elections in the whole municipality. The registrars of voters may also designate a deputy head moderator to assist the head moderator in the performance of his or her duties. [provided the deputy head moderator and the head moderator shall not be enrolled

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in the same major party, as defined in subdivision (5) of section 9-372.] The [selectmen, town clerk,] registrars of voters and all other officers of the municipality shall perform the duties required of them by law with respect to elections in each voting district established in accordance with this section. Voting district lines shall not be drawn by a municipality so as to conflict with the lines of congressional districts, senate districts or assembly districts as established by law, except (1) as provided in section 9-169d, and (2) that as to municipal elections, any part of a split voting district containing less than two hundred electors may be combined with another voting district adjacent thereto from which all and the same officers are elected at such municipal election. Any change in the boundaries of voting districts made within ninety days prior to any election or primary shall not apply with respect to such election or primary. The provisions of this section shall prevail over any contrary provision of any charter or special act.

- Sec. 13. Section 9-35 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):
- (a) The registrars of voters, on the Tuesday of the fifth week before each regular election, shall [be in session for the purpose of completing a correct] complete a list of all electors who will be entitled to vote at such election. Such registry list shall consist of an active registry list and an inactive registry list. [Such session shall be held during such hours between nine o'clock a.m. and five o'clock p.m. as the registrars find necessary to complete the list. Notice of such session shall be given at least five days before the session by publication in a newspaper having a circulation in such municipality, if any, and by posting on the signpost therein, if any, or at some other exterior place near the office of the town clerk. Such publication shall not be required to be in the form of a legal advertisement.]
- (b) [At such session and on any day except on the day of an election or primary, the registrars] On a routine basis throughout the year, the registrars of voters shall remove from the list the name of each elector who has died, who has been disfranchised or who has confirmed in

writing that the elector has moved out of the municipality, except electors entitled to remain on such list under the provisions of this chapter. An elector shall be deemed to have confirmed in writing that the elector has moved out of the municipality if (1) the elector has submitted a change of address form for purposes of a state motor vehicle operator's license, unless the elector states on the form that the change of address is not for voter registration purposes, (2) the elector has submitted a change of address form to a voter registration agency, as defined in section 9-23n, and such agency has provided such change of address to the registrars of voters, or (3) the registrars of voters have received a cancellation of previous registration from any other election official indicating that such elector has registered as an elector outside such municipality.

- (c) Whenever the registrars of voters of a town remove from the registry list the name of an elector who has submitted a change of address to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles or a voter registration agency under subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (b) of this section, indicating that the elector has moved out of such town, the registrars of voters shall send the elector, by forwardable mail to the elector's former address from such list or current address in the new town, (1) a notice of removal, (2) information explaining how to have the elector's name restored to such list, which shall be in a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State, and (3) a mail-in voter registration application which can be used by the elector to apply for admission as an elector in the new town. If such notice, information and application are sent to the elector's former address and are returned undeliverable, the registrars of voters shall mail such documents to the elector's address in the new town.
- (d) The registrars of voters shall enter the names on such list by street and number of the house, when the houses are numbered, so that there shall be entered on the list first, the street, avenue or road; second, the number of the house or residence in numerical order or, if the registrars of any town find it more convenient, by odd and even numbers in numerical order; and third, the names of the electors in

such house in alphabetical order. The names of any electors who cannot be so listed shall be listed alphabetically in the voting district wherein any such elector is a bona fide resident. The registrars of voters may consecutively number the names on the registry list, may include voter identification numbers for the names on the registry list, and may include a mark, as prescribed by the Secretary of the State, next to the name of each first-time registrant on the system who registers to vote on or after January 1, 2003, and does not provide identification with his or her mail-in voter registration application as provided in the Help America Vote Act, P.L. 107-252, as amended from time to time, provided such list shall comply in all respects with the requirements of law other than for the addition of such numbers and marks. The registrars of voters shall not use Social Security numbers for any such voter identification numbers.

(e) In any case in which the registrars of voters have obtained reliable information of an elector's change of address within the municipality, they shall enter the name of such elector on the registry list at the place where the elector then resides, provided, if such reliable information is the National Change of Address System of the United States Postal Service, the [registrar] registrars of voters shall change the registry list and send the elector a notice of the change by forwardable mail and a postage prepaid preaddressed return form by which the elector may verify or correct the address information. If during the canvass the registrars of voters determine that an elector has moved out of town and such elector has not confirmed in writing that the elector has moved out of the town, the registrars of voters shall, not later than May first, send to the elector, by forwardable mail, a notice required by the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time, together with a postage prepaid preaddressed return card on which the elector may state the elector's current address. In the year of a presidential preference primary, the registrars of voters shall send such notice not earlier than the date of such primary. If the [registrar does] registrars of voters do not receive the return card within thirty days after it is sent, the elector's name,

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including the name of an elector who has not voted in two consecutive federal elections, shall be placed on the inactive registry list for four years. At the expiration of such period of time on the inactive registry list, such name shall be removed from the registry list. If such elector applies to restore the elector's name to the active registry list or votes during such period, the elector's name shall be restored to the active registry list. Such registrars of voters shall retain a duplicate copy or data entry record of each such [notice] transaction in their office [or, if they do not have a permanent office, in the office space provided under section 9-5a,] and shall [note] record on such duplicate copy or record the date on which such notice was mailed. In each municipality, any elector, upon change of residence within the municipality, may cause the elector's registration to be transferred to the elector's new address by presenting to the registrars of voters a signed request [therefore, stating] for such transfer, such as a voter registration card with a change of address checked off, which states the elector's present address [, the date the elector moved to such address] and the address at which the elector was last registered. The registrars of voters shall thereupon enter the elector's name on the list at the elector's new residence; provided no transfer of registration shall be made on the registry list on election day without the consent of both registrars. On election day, the name of such elector shall be added to the supplemental list after the appropriate paperwork is signed.

Sec. 14. Section 9-35a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

[Immediately after the close of the session or immediately after the sending of notice of intended removal provided for in section 9-35, the] The registrars of voters shall post at the town hall or municipal building in the municipality in which they serve, in a place readily accessible to the public, a list of the names of the electors whose names were removed from the registry list [at such session or will be removed on the date specified] in accordance with section 9-35, as amended by this act, together with the address of each such elector as it appeared on the registry list at the time the name was so removed. Together with

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such list, and as a part thereof, such registrars of voters shall also cause to be posted a statement that complete information as to such removal and as to the privileges and remedies of those whose names were removed from the registry list is available from such registrars of voters, specifying when and where such registrars of voters are available for such purpose and [, in the case of registrars of voters having office hours, specifying such office hours for such registrars of voters.

Sec. 15. Section 9-35b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

[Except during the period between the last session for the admission of electors prior to an election and the day following that election, any] Any elector of any municipality who desires to relinquish his rights as an elector and to have his name erased from the registry list shall make a signed written request to the registrars of voters of such municipality. Upon receipt of such application, the registrars of voters shall remove the elector's name from the registry list and any enrollment list. Any person whose name has been removed from the registry list pursuant to this section may reapply for admission as an elector at any time, without prejudice on account of such removal. In the event such person is admitted as an elector, the registrar of the municipality shall notify the registrars of voters of the municipality where such person resided at the time of his relinquishment that his electoral privileges have been restored.

Sec. 16. Section 9-35c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 9-238, 9-406 and 9-436 and other provisions of the general statutes, the names of electors on the inactive registry list compiled under section 9-35, as amended by this act, shall not be counted for purposes of computing the number of voting [machines] tabulators required and the number of petition signatures required. Each elector on such inactive registry list who, in

the determination of the registrars of voters, has signed a petition pursuant to the general statutes, giving the same address as appears on the inactive registry list, shall forthwith be placed on the active registry list compiled under said section 9-35. Each such elector shall be counted for purposes of future computations of the number of voting [machines] tabulators required and the number of signatures required on future petitions issued for other electoral events. The names of electors on the inactive registry list compiled pursuant to section 9-35, as amended by this act, shall not be counted for purposes of computing the minimum percentage of the number of electors required in any charter or special act, if such charter or special act requires approval of a referendum by a minimum percentage of electors qualified on the last-completed registry list or has a similar requirement.

Sec. 17. Section 9-36 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

The list for which provision is made in section 9-35, as amended by this act, shall be termed the preliminary registry list and such list shall be [completed, certified by such registrars and deposited in the town clerk's office, at least thirty-one days before the regular election, and shall be on file in such office available in the office of the registrars of voters for public inspection [until the next preliminary registry list has been completed and filed. In each municipality having a population of more than five thousand, a certified copy of such preliminary registry list for each voting district therein shall be completed, reproduced, certified by the registrars and posted in such municipality for public inspection on or before the Saturday of the fifth week before each regular election, and copies shall be made available for distribution by the registrars of voters. Whenever the registrars of voters are not in their office, such list shall be placed outside of the office for public inspection. The registrars of voters shall, upon request, give to [a] any candidate for election [to the General Assembly] a copy of the preliminary registry list for each voting district [included in the General Assembly district] for which such person is a candidate.

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Sec. 18. Section 9-37 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

[Each registrar shall keep a copy of the preliminary registry list for his use in revision. Such registrars shall give notice in such list of the times and places at which they will hold one or more sessions during the period between the Saturday of the fifth week before the regular election and the Saturday of the fourth week before the regular election, for the revision and correction of such list which, when completed, shall be termed the "final registry list" for such election. In each municipality having a population of more than five thousand, they shall also give notice of such times and places by publication in a newspaper circulating in such municipality and by posting the same on the signpost therein, if any, and at the office of the town clerk at least five days before the first of such sessions. The number of sessions shall be fixed by the registrars of each municipality. The registrars shall also hold sessions, of which no public notice need be given, for the purpose of correcting such preliminary list, and for the purpose of adding to such list the names of persons entitled to be registered thereon, on each day they are in session for the admission of electors pursuant to section 9-17, and they may also hold sessions for revision and correction of the registry list on any other day, except during the period of six days preceding any regular election. On the fourteenth day before a primary, the registrars shall hold an additional session to hear such requests for adding names to the registry list, in accordance with the procedure provided in this section, and the registrars shall publish notice of such sessions in a newspaper having general circulation in such municipality at least five days before such sessions. Nothing in this section shall require that such publication be in the form of a legal advertisement.]

The registrars of voters shall be available before all elections for revisions and corrections of the preliminary list which, when completed, shall be termed "the final registry list" for such election. In each municipality, availability of the registrars of voters shall be the posted office hours in such municipality for the registrars of voters.

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Sec. 19. Section 9-38 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

The registrars of voters in all towns shall [, on the second Friday preceding a regular election, deposit in the town clerk's office the final registry list arranged as provided in section 9-35 and certified by them to be correct, and shall retain a sufficient number of copies to be used by them at such election for the purpose of checking the names of those who vote. They shall place on such final list, in the order provided in section 9-35, the names of all persons who have been admitted as electors. In each municipality said registrars shall also cause to be prepared and printed and deposited in the town clerk's office a supplementary or updated list containing the names and addresses of electors to be transferred, restored or added to such list prior to the fourth day before such election, provided in municipalities having a population of less than twenty-five thousand, such additional names may be inserted in writing in such final list. Such final registry list and supplementary or updated list deposited in the town clerk's office shall be on file in such office for public inspection for a period of two years, and any elector may make copies thereof produce a final registry list arranged in accordance with the provisions of section 9-35, as amended by this act, and certified by the registrars of voters to be correct. Such final registry list and supplementary or updated list shall be on file in the municipal clerk's office not later than the day before election day and shall be available in the registrars of voters' office for public inspection. Whenever the registrars of voters are not in their office, such list shall be placed outside of the office for public inspection. Any elector may request copies of such list.

Sec. 20. Section 9-39 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

The registrars of <u>voters of</u> each municipality shall <u>upon request</u>, print copies of the final registry list for distribution in such municipality and in all the voting districts located therein. [, provided nothing in sections 9-12 to 9-45, inclusive, shall require the printing of

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- 606 more than one final registry list for any voting district in any one year. 607 With each printing such registrars shall retain at least two copies of 608 such lists and such copies shall be available for public use in the office 609 of the registrars for a period of two years.] The registrars shall, upon 610 request, give to [a] any candidate for election [to the General 611 Assembly a copy of the final registry list for each voting district 612 [included in the General Assembly district] for which such person is a 613 candidate and shall maintain such list, either on paper or in electronic 614 format, for a period of two years.
- Sec. 21. Section 9-50a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):
- 617 The registrars of voters of each town shall [, on a monthly basis,] 618 compile a list of (1) all persons whose names were added, restored, 619 removed or erased from the active and inactive registry lists, [during 620 the preceding month, [(2) all electors who changed either their names 621 or addresses, [during such period] and (3) all persons sent notices 622 required under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, P.L. 103-31, as amended from time to time, and all persons who have replied to 623 624 such notices. Such list shall include, but not be limited to, each such 625 person's or elector's (A) name, (B) former name, [if changed during 626 such period,] (C) address, [including zip code,] (D) former address, 627 [including zip code, if changed during such period,] (E) voting district, 628 and (F) party affiliation, if any. The registrars shall make each such list 629 available to the public [in accordance with the provisions of section 1-630 210] upon such request.
- Sec. 22. Section 9-55 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):
 - (a) The registrars <u>of voters</u> shall cause to be printed [at least once during the calendar year a sufficient number of copies of complete, corrected enrollment lists certified by them as correct, provided a supplementary or updated list shall be printed within one week after a session held on the fourteenth day before a primary] <u>a complete</u>

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- enrollment list and shall make such list available to the public upon request.
- (b) If a political party authorizes unaffiliated electors to vote in a primary, under section 9-431, and a notice of primary is published, the registrars shall cause a list of all unaffiliated electors eligible to vote in the primary to be printed [within one week after the session held on the fourteenth day] before such primary. If unaffiliated electors are authorized to vote in only one party's primary and are authorized to vote for all offices to be contested at the primary, the registrars may print the list of unaffiliated electors in combination with such party's enrollment list, indicating party affiliation where applicable.
 - (c) If the legislative body of the municipality votes to eliminate separate enrollment lists under section 9-54 and:
 - (1) Notices of primaries are published for two parties to be held on the same day, the registrars of voters shall print complete separate enrollment lists [within one week after the enrollment session held on the fourteenth day before the primary] and, if unaffiliated electors are authorized to vote in the primary, the registrars of voters shall print a separate list of unaffiliated electors as provided in subsection (b) of this section; or
 - (2) A notice of primary is published for one party in which unaffiliated electors are authorized to vote for some but not all offices to be contested at the primary, the registrars of voters shall print a complete separate enrollment list and a separate list of unaffiliated electors as provided in subsection (b) of this section; or
 - (3) A notice of primary is published for only one party and (A) unaffiliated electors are not authorized to vote, or (B) unaffiliated electors are authorized to vote for all offices to be contested at the primary, a registry list may be used as a checklist at the primary and the registrars of voters shall [, within one week after the session held on the fourteenth day before such primary,] print a supplementary or updated list indicating those electors who have become eligible to vote

in the primary since the printing of the registry list.

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- (d) Whenever a list is required by this section to be printed, [within one week after the session held on the fourteenth day before the primary,] a supplement to such list shall be compiled by the registrars of voters of persons who after such date and prior to twelve o'clock noon of the last business day before the primary become eligible to vote in such primary. The registrars of voters may combine such separate compilation with the foregoing printed list [either by inserting the names in writing or] by reprinting the list or incorporating the supplementary [or updated list into a single printed] list.
- (e) The registrars of voters shall [file one copy of each such list with the town clerk which copy shall be make available for public use such <u>list</u> in the office of the [town clerk] <u>registrars of voters</u> until the printing of the next completed [, corrected] enrollment list; and they shall deliver to the chairman of the town committee of each political party [five] copies of each such list for each voting district in the town. Whenever the registrars of voters are not in their office, such list shall be placed outside of the office for public inspection. Upon request the registrars of voters shall give one complete set of such lists to each candidate for nomination for any office or for election as a town committee member. They shall deliver a sufficient number of copies thereof to the moderator of each primary. [With each printing the registrars shall retain at least six copies of each such list and such copies shall be available for public use in the office of the registrars until the printing of the next complete, corrected enrollment list.] No petition brought under the provisions of section 9-63 shall operate to delay the completion and printing of such lists. If the petition of any elector is granted after any such list has been completed, the [registrar or assistant registrar registrars of voters or assistant registrars of voters, as the case may be, shall issue to such elector a certificate showing that the elector is entitled to the privileges accompanying enrollment in the political party named in the elector's petition.

Sec. 23. Section 9-169g of the general statutes is repealed and the

following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

- (a) The [town clerk] <u>registrars of voters</u> of any municipality (1) which is divided between two or more assembly districts, two or more senatorial districts or two or more congressional districts, or (2) which is not divided between any such districts but is divided into two or more voting districts for General Assembly or congressional elections, shall submit to the Secretary of the State a street map of the municipality which indicates the boundary lines of the voting districts established by the municipality in accordance with sections 9-169, <u>as amended by this act</u>, 9-169a and 9-169d. The [town clerk] <u>registrars of voters</u> shall submit such map to the [secretary] <u>Secretary of the State</u> (A) not later than July 30, 1997, if any such division is in effect on July 1, 1997, or, if no such division is in effect on July 1, 1997, not later than thirty days after any such division first takes effect, and (B) not later than thirty days after any change in any such division takes effect.
- (b) The Secretary of the State shall make such maps available to the General Assembly, for use by the General Assembly in carrying out its responsibilities under (1) Article XXVI of the Amendments to the Constitution of Connecticut, or any subsequent corresponding state constitutional provision, with regard to the redistricting of assembly, senatorial and congressional districts, and (2) Public Law 94-171, concerning the establishment of a plan identifying the geographic areas for which specific tabulations of population are desired in the decennial census of the United States.
- Sec. 24. Section 9-172b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):
- [(a)] In each municipality or political subdivision in which a special election or referendum is to be held, the registrars of voters shall prepare a supplementary or updated list of the names and addresses of those persons who acquired voting privileges after the completion of the revised registry list and prior to the day of such special election or referendum. In each such municipality or political subdivision, not

later than the day before such special election or referendum, such registrars of voters shall cause to be completed and printed [and deposited in the town clerk's office such list arranged as provided in section 9-35, as amended by this act, and certified by them to be correct, and shall retain a sufficient number of copies to be used by them at such election or referendum for the purpose of checking the names of those who vote, provided the names of any persons who acquired such voting privileges [within thirty days before such special election or referendum] may be inserted on [such printed list in writing] the supplemental list.

- [(b) In the case of a special election or referendum, no person admitted as an elector on the day of the special election or referendum shall be entitled to vote in that election.]
- Sec. 25. Section 9-238a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

During the first week of [February] <u>January</u> in each year, the [town clerk] <u>registrars of voters</u> of each town shall notify the Secretary of the State, on a form provided by said secretary, of the total number of names on the active registry list and on each enrollment list and the total number of unaffiliated electors, in such town, and of the total number of voting [machines] <u>tabulators</u> therein and, in towns divided into voting districts, in addition, the same information for each voting district. If the number of [machines] <u>tabulators</u> listed in such notification is less than the number required under section 9-238, the [town clerk] <u>registrars of voters</u> shall include in such notification an explanation of the discrepancy. [Each such clerk shall also file a duplicate copy of such notification with the officials who are required to provide voting machines in his municipality under section 9-238.]

- Sec. 26. Section 9-31a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):
- **[**(a) As used in this section and section 9-31b, "permanently physically disabled person" means a person who, by reason of a major

defect or infirmity of body, whether congenital or acquired by accident, injury or disease, is permanently physically incapacitated to a degree that prevents him and will continue to prevent him from appearing in person at the office of the town clerk or registrars of the town where he temporarily or permanently resides.

(b) Any permanently physically disabled person may, in the manner prescribed under this section and upon a form as prescribed under section 9-31b, apply to the town clerk or either registrar of voters of such town for examination and admission as an elector of any Connecticut town. (1) In the case of a permanently physically disabled person whose qualifications as to age, citizenship or residence in such town are attained on or before the last session for admission of electors prior to an election to be held in the town, the application shall be submitted so that it will be received by such town clerk or either registrar of voters not later than such last session. Upon receipt of the application, the town clerk or either registrar of voters shall notify the applicant of the day, and the hour, such day to be within ten days of the receipt of the application, at which an admitting official shall meet with the applicant at the temporary or permanent residence of the applicant. (2) In the case of a permanently physically disabled person whose qualifications as to age, citizenship or residence in such town are attained after the last session for admission of electors prior to an election to be held in the town, the application shall be submitted so that it will be received by such town clerk or either registrar of voters not later than the opening of the limited session for the admission of electors held, under section 9-17, on the last weekday prior to the election. Upon receipt of the application, the town clerk or either registrar of voters shall notify the applicant of the day, and the hour, such day and hour to be not later than 5:00 p.m. on the last weekday before the election, at which an admitting official shall meet with the applicant at the temporary or permanent residence of the applicant.

(c) Such admitting official shall meet at the appointed time with the applicant for the purpose of examining his qualifications as an elector and for the purpose of admitting him as an elector if the applicant is

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found qualified. Such official shall make available to the applicant at such time, upon request, a copy of the statement that specifies each eligibility requirement and contains an attestation that the applicant meets each such requirement (1) in video form in accordance with procedures established by the registrars of voters and (2) in braille, large print and audio form. Such official shall provide the applicant with a written notice of approval or disapproval at that time, except as otherwise provided in section 9-19e. Any person making application for registration under this section shall be entitled to the privileges of an elector and party enrollment, if applicable, from the time such application for admission as an elector is approved by the town clerk or registrars of voters of his voting residence.]

- (a) Any disabled person who cannot register to vote by mail or in person at the office of the registrars of voters may request of the registrars of voters that an admitting official be sent to the person's residence to assist the applicant with the application for admission as an elector. The registrars of voters shall act promptly on any such request. If election-related materials in alternative formats are requested by such person, the registrars of voters shall provide such materials in accordance with any applicable state or federal law.
- (b) In the case of a disabled person whose qualifications as to age, citizenship or residence in such town are attained after the last session for admission of electors prior to an election to be held in the town, the person shall be admitted by either registrar of voters not later than five o'clock p.m. on the last weekday before the election. An admitting official shall meet with the applicant at the temporary or permanent residence of the applicant at such time of admission.
- (c) Any person that makes application for admission as an elector pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be entitled to the privileges of an elector and party enrollment, if applicable, from the time such application for admission as an elector is approved by the registrars of voters.

Sec. 27. Subsection (a) of section 9-264 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

(a) An elector who requires assistance to vote, by reason of blindness, disability or inability to write or to read the ballot, may be given assistance by a person of the elector's choice, other than (1) the elector's employer, (2) an agent of such employer, [or] (3) an officer or agent of the elector's union, or (4) a candidate on the ballot. The registrars of voters or the assistant registrars of voters, as the case my be, shall request the name of the person providing assistance. If the elector refuses to provide the name of the person providing assistance, such refusal shall be recorded but shall not deny the elector the right to <u>vote</u>. The person assisting the elector may accompany the elector into the voting [machine] booth. Such person shall register such elector's vote upon the [machine] ballot as such elector directs. Any person accompanying an elector into the voting [machine] booth who deceives any elector in registering [his] the elector's vote under this section or seeks to influence any elector while in the act of voting, or who registers any vote for any elector or on any question other than as requested by such elector, or who gives information to any person as to what person or persons such elector voted for, or how [he] the <u>elector</u> voted on any question, shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

Sec. 28. Section 9-297 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

No official or other person at any election shall, in the [enclosure where the ballot box and stub box are placed, or in any room or booth herein mentioned,] polling place, suggest to any elector the name of any political party or candidate for any office. No person shall assist or offer to assist any elector in the preparation of [his] the ballot. [to be used in voting, unless appointed for that purpose by the moderator of the election.] No elector shall receive [such] assistance unless [he is physically incapable of preparing his ballot, and the moderator shall be

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- the sole judge of such physical disability] the elector requests assistance. In such case, [of such physical disability, the moderator] the elector shall [, upon the request of the elector, appoint two electors of different parties, and such persons shall render such assistance as the elector requires in the preparation of his ballot] choose whom the elector would like to have assist him or her in casting the ballot.
- Sec. 29. Section 9-17a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):
- As used in sections 9-17, 9-19b, 9-19c(a), 9-20, <u>as amended by this</u> act, 9-23a, 9-24, 9-31a, <u>as amended by this act</u>, [9-31b] and 9-31*l*, unless otherwise provided, the term "admitting official" means a town clerk, assistant town clerk, registrar of voters, deputy registrar of voters, assistant registrar of voters, special assistant registrar of voters or the board for admission of electors.
- Sec. 30. Subsection (b) of section 9-20 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective* 882 October 1, 2007):
 - (b) The applicant's statement shall be delivered to the registrars immediately and shall be kept by the registrars as a public record in a safe depository, except that no Social Security number obtained by the registrars prior to January 1, 2000, may be disclosed to the public or to any governmental agency. Any such statement of an elector whose name has been removed from the registry list for a period of at least five years may be placed on microfilm, destroyed or otherwise disposed of by such registrars, in the manner provided in section 7-109. Upon the request of any elector, or if the applicant does not present a birth certificate, drivers' license or Social Security card as required by subsection (a) of this section, at the time an application is made in person to an admitting official or prior to the approval of such an application, any admitting official shall require the applicant to prove his identity, place of birth, age and bona fide residence by the testimony under oath of at least one elector or by the presentation of

proof satisfactory to such admitting official. Each person found qualified shall thereupon be admitted as an elector, except as provided in sections 9-12, 9-19e, 9-19g and 9-30. The registrars may request an elector whose date of birth is missing from their records to voluntarily furnish his date of birth. Any admitting official may administer oaths in any matter coming before him under section 9-12, 9-17, 9-19b, subsection (a) of section 9-19c, section 9-19e, 9-19g, 9-23, 9-23a, 9-25, 9-31a, as amended by this act, [9-31b,] 9-31l, 9-40a or this section. Said admitting official shall prohibit any activity which interferes with the orderly process of admission of electors.

Sec. 31. (NEW) (Effective from passage) Not later than February 1, 2008, the Secretary of the State shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, that provide for the automatic mailing of an absentee ballot prior to an election to any person who is permanently disabled, provided such person files an initial application for an absentee ballot along with a certification from a physician indicating that such person is permanently disabled. Such regulations shall include, but not be limited to, the form and content of such certification, a schedule for the mailing of such absentee ballots and procedures for the protection of the medical privacy of any such applicant.

Sec. 32. Sections 9-31b, 9-31d, 9-58 and 9-195 of the general statutes are repealed. (*Effective October 1, 2007*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:				
Section 1	July 1, 2007, and applicable to primaries and elections held on and after July 1, 2007	New section		
Sec. 2	July 1, 2007, and applicable to primaries and elections held on and after July 1, 2007	9-158a		

applicable to primaries and elections held on and after July 1, 2007	Sec. 3	July 1, 2007, and	9-158b(a)
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Sec. 4		1 ' '	
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Sec. 32	October 1, 2007	Repealer section

GAE Joint Favorable Subst.

APP Joint Favorable

PD Joint Favorable